

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended claims 1 and 12; claims 3 and 14 have been canceled. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-2, 4-12 and 14-22 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowance of claims 4-11 and 15-22.

Examiner Objections – Drawings

The Drawings were objected to because in Figure 2, no designated legend such as Prior Art is illustrated. In response, the Applicant is submitting “formal” replacement sheets. The Examiner’s approval of these drawings is respectfully requested.

Examiner Objections – Specification

The specification was objected to because of several informalities. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for his careful review of the specification. In response, the Applicant has modified the specification as suggested by the Examiner. The Examiner’s consideration of the amendments to the specification is respectfully requested.

Examiner Objections - Claims

Claims 3 and 14 were objected to as to being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicant has amended independent Claim 1 and independent Claim 12 to include the allowable subject matter of Claims 3 and 14 respectively.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1, 2, 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Pfundstein (US 5,375,251 hereinafter Pfundstein). The Applicant has canceled dependent claims 3 and 14 and incorporated the allowable limitations of those claims into the respective independent claims 1 and 12. Claims 2 and 13 depend from amended independent claims 1 and 12 and contain the same allowable limitations as amended claims 1 and 12. The Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 2, 12 and 13.

Prior Art Not Relied Upon

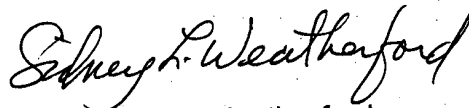
In paragraph 10 on page 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner stated that the prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to the Applicant's disclosure.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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